

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
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ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD  
+ + + + +  
MEETING

IN THE MATTER OF:

Dahlak Restaurant, Inc.	Show Cause
t/a Dahlak Restaurant	Hearing
1771 U Street, NW	(Status)
Retailer CR - ANC-1C	
License No. 74433	
Case #14-CMP-00070	

(Substantial Change in  
Operation Without Board  
Approval)

July 9, 2014

The Alcoholic Beverage Control  
Board met in the Alcoholic Beverage Control  
Hearing Room, Reeves Building, 2000 14th  
Street, N.W., Suite 400S, Washington, D.C.  
20009, Chairperson Ruthanne Miller, presiding.

PRESENT:

RUTHANNE MILLER, Chairperson  
NICK ALBERTI, Member  
DONALD BROOKS, Member  
MIKE SILVERSTEIN, Member  
HECTOR RODRIGUEZ, Member  
JAMES SHORT, Member

ALSO PRESENT:

MICHAEL STERN, OAG

1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 (10:09 a.m.)

3 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: All right.

4 The next case is Case No. 14-CMP-00070, Dahlak

5 Restaurant located at 1771 U Street, N.W.,

6 License No. 74433, in ANC-1C.

7 MR. STERN: Michael Stern

8 representing the District of Columbia.

9 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Good morning.

10 MR. ASMEROM: Good morning.

11 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: And when you

12 are ready, would you introduce yourself for

13 the record, please?

14 MR. ASMEROM: If it's not

15 confusing, I just changed my name. It is

16 going to be Yonas Asmerom, the new name.

17 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Wait. So

18 give me both names, your previous name and

19 your --

20 MR. ASMEROM: Previous name is

21 Danny L. Misifini.

22 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

1 MR. ASMEROM: New name is Yonas  
2 Asmerom.

3 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: And what's  
4 your current name?

5 MR. ASMEROM: Yonas Asmerom.

6 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Could you  
7 spell your last name?

8 MR. ASMEROM: Y-O-N-A-S last name  
9 is M-E -- A-S --

10 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. I got  
11 that one.

12 MR. ASMEROM: Okay.

13 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. That's  
14 the name. You just changed your first name.

15 MR. ASMEROM: Okay.

16 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

17 MEMBER ALBERTI: So your last name  
18 is the same?

19 MR. ASMEROM: Sorry?

20 MEMBER ALBERTI: Your last name is  
21 the same?

22 MR. ASMEROM: It's not the same.

1 The last name is A-S-M-E-R-O-M.

2 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Oh.

3 MR. ASMEROM: Asmerom.

4 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. So --

5 MEMBER ALBERTI: Thank you.

6 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: -- did you  
7 receive notice of this hearing?

8 MR. ASMEROM: Yes.

9 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Did  
10 you read it and understand it?

11 MR. ASMEROM: Yes.

12 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. So we  
13 don't have a notice issue here and you are  
14 here. Okay.

15 So are there any preliminary  
16 matters?

17 MR. STERN: Not at this time. The  
18 owner and I have not spoken about this  
19 previously.

20 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

21 MR. STERN: I'll be happy to speak  
22 with him today and if something can be worked

1 out right now, we can recall it. If not, we  
2 will have it set for trial.

3 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Good.  
4 So what I'm going to do is I'm going to give  
5 you your Show Cause Hearing date, in the event  
6 you don't settle and you go to hearing. Your  
7 date is October 15, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

8 MR. ASMEROM: Is that for me or  
9 for --

10 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: For all of  
11 you. You will have a hearing.

12 MR. ASMEROM: Okay.

13 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Like a trial.  
14 You will have like a hearing on this case,  
15 unless you and the Government work out an  
16 agreement. Okay? Mr. Stern is saying he is  
17 going to talk to you outside after this.

18 MR. ASMEROM: Okay. When is it  
19 going to be?

20 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: So if you go  
21 to hearing, it's going to be October 15th at  
22 10:00 a.m.

1 MR. ASMEROM: All right. Thank  
2 you.

3 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Yes?

4 MEMBER ALBERTI: Before -- Mr.  
5 Asmerom?

6 MR. ASMEROM: Yes?

7 MEMBER ALBERTI: If you would,  
8 please, update your license, you can do that  
9 at either --

10 MR. ASMEROM: Yes, I just -- even  
11 I don't have my driver's license.

12 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Oh.

13 MR. ASMEROM: I just did it.

14 MEMBER ALBERTI: Oh, you just did  
15 it with our staff out front?

16 MR. ASMEROM: Not yet. But I just  
17 given this notice.

18 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay.

19 MR. ASMEROM: I was in the process  
20 of changing.

21 MEMBER ALBERTI: Great, right.  
22 It's just as a reminder to do that.

1 MR. ASMEROM: I will.

2 MEMBER ALBERTI: It is helpful to  
3 us, helpful to you --

4 MR. ASMEROM: I will.

5 MEMBER ALBERTI: -- if you do that  
6 today. Thank you.

7 MR. ASMEROM: Okay. Thank you.

8 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. So  
9 this case is concluded and, Mr. Stern, if you  
10 work out something before we move on to a  
11 full-fledged hearing, we can recall the case.

12 MR. STERN: Will do. Thank you.

13 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Thank  
14 you.

15 (Whereupon, the Show Cause  
16 (Status) Hearing in the above-entitled matter  
17 was concluded at 10:13 a.m.)  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22

<p><b>A</b></p> <p><b>A-S</b> 3:9</p> <p><b>A-S-M-E-R-O-M</b> 4:1</p> <p><b>a.m</b> 2:2 5:7,22 7:17</p> <p><b>above-entitled</b> 7:16</p> <p><b>agreement</b> 5:16</p> <p><b>ALBERTI</b> 1:17 3:17,20 4:5 6:4,7 6:14,18,21 7:2,5</p> <p><b>Alcoholic</b> 1:2,12,13</p> <p><b>ANC-1C</b> 1:7 2:6</p> <p><b>Approval</b> 1:10</p> <p><b>Asmerom</b> 2:10,14 2:16,20 3:1,2,5,5 3:8,12,15,19,22 4:3,3,8,11 5:8,12 5:18 6:1,5,6,10,13 6:16,19 7:1,4,7</p> <p><b>B</b></p> <p><b>Beverage</b> 1:2,12,13</p> <p><b>Board</b> 1:2,9,13</p> <p><b>BROOKS</b> 1:17</p> <p><b>Building</b> 1:13</p> <p><b>C</b></p> <p><b>case</b> 1:8 2:4,4 5:14 7:9,11</p> <p><b>Cause</b> 1:5 5:5 7:15</p> <p><b>Chairperson</b> 1:14 1:16 2:3,9,11,17 2:22 3:3,6,10,13 3:16 4:2,4,6,9,12 4:20 5:3,10,13,20 6:3,12 7:8,13</p> <p><b>Change</b> 1:9</p> <p><b>changed</b> 2:15 3:14</p> <p><b>changing</b> 6:20</p> <p><b>Columbia</b> 1:1 2:8</p> <p><b>concluded</b> 7:9,17</p> <p><b>confusing</b> 2:15</p> <p><b>Control</b> 1:2,12,13</p> <p><b>CR</b> 1:7</p> <p><b>current</b> 3:4</p> <p><b>D</b></p> <p><b>D.C</b> 1:14</p> <p><b>Dahlak</b> 1:5,6 2:4</p> <p><b>Danny</b> 2:21</p>	<p><b>date</b> 5:5,7</p> <p><b>District</b> 1:1 2:8</p> <p><b>DONALD</b> 1:17</p> <p><b>driver's</b> 6:11</p> <p><b>E</b></p> <p><b>either</b> 6:9</p> <p><b>event</b> 5:5</p> <p><b>F</b></p> <p><b>first</b> 3:14</p> <p><b>front</b> 6:15</p> <p><b>full-fledged</b> 7:11</p> <p><b>G</b></p> <p><b>give</b> 2:18 5:4</p> <p><b>given</b> 6:17</p> <p><b>go</b> 5:6,20</p> <p><b>going</b> 2:16 5:4,4,17 5:19,21</p> <p><b>Good</b> 2:9,10 5:3</p> <p><b>Government</b> 5:15</p> <p><b>Great</b> 6:21</p> <p><b>H</b></p> <p><b>happy</b> 4:21</p> <p><b>hearing</b> 1:6,13 4:7 5:5,6,11,14,21 7:11,16</p> <p><b>HECTOR</b> 1:18</p> <p><b>helpful</b> 7:2,3</p> <p><b>I</b></p> <p><b>introduce</b> 2:12</p> <p><b>issue</b> 4:13</p> <p><b>J</b></p> <p><b>JAMES</b> 1:19</p> <p><b>July</b> 1:11</p> <p><b>K</b></p> <p><b>L</b></p> <p><b>L</b> 2:21</p> <p><b>license</b> 1:7 2:6 6:8 6:11</p> <p><b>located</b> 2:5</p> <p><b>M</b></p> <p><b>M-E</b> 3:9</p> <p><b>matter</b> 1:4 7:16</p>	<p><b>matters</b> 4:16</p> <p><b>MEETING</b> 1:3</p> <p><b>Member</b> 1:17,17,18 1:18,19 3:17,20 4:5 6:4,7,14,18,21 7:2,5</p> <p><b>met</b> 1:13</p> <p><b>Michael</b> 1:21 2:7</p> <p><b>MIKE</b> 1:18</p> <p><b>Miller</b> 1:14,16 2:3 2:9,11,17,22 3:3,6 3:10,13,16 4:2,4,6 4:9,12,20 5:3,10 5:13,20 6:3,12 7:8 7:13</p> <p><b>Misifini</b> 2:21</p> <p><b>morning</b> 2:9,10</p> <p><b>move</b> 7:10</p> <p><b>N</b></p> <p><b>N.W</b> 1:14 2:5</p> <p><b>name</b> 2:15,16,18,20 3:1,4,7,8,14,14,17 3:20 4:1</p> <p><b>names</b> 2:18</p> <p><b>new</b> 2:16 3:1</p> <p><b>NICK</b> 1:17</p> <p><b>notice</b> 4:7,13 6:17</p> <p><b>NW</b> 1:6</p> <p><b>O</b></p> <p><b>OAG</b> 1:21</p> <p><b>October</b> 5:7,21</p> <p><b>Oh</b> 4:2 6:12,14</p> <p><b>Okay</b> 2:22 3:10,12 3:13,15,16 4:4,9 4:12,14,20 5:3,12 5:16,18 6:3,18 7:7 7:8,13</p> <p><b>Operation</b> 1:9</p> <p><b>outside</b> 5:17</p> <p><b>owner</b> 4:18</p> <p><b>P</b></p> <p><b>P-R-O-C-E-E-D-...</b> 2:1</p> <p><b>please</b> 2:13 6:8</p> <p><b>preliminary</b> 4:15</p> <p><b>PRESENT</b> 1:15,20</p> <p><b>presiding</b> 1:14</p>	<p><b>previous</b> 2:18,20</p> <p><b>previously</b> 4:19</p> <p><b>process</b> 6:19</p> <p><b>Q</b></p> <p><b>R</b></p> <p><b>read</b> 4:10</p> <p><b>ready</b> 2:12</p> <p><b>recall</b> 5:1 7:11</p> <p><b>receive</b> 4:7</p> <p><b>record</b> 2:13</p> <p><b>Reeves</b> 1:13</p> <p><b>reminder</b> 6:22</p> <p><b>representing</b> 2:8</p> <p><b>Restaurant</b> 1:5,6 2:5</p> <p><b>Retailer</b> 1:7</p> <p><b>right</b> 2:3 5:1 6:1,21</p> <p><b>RODRIGUEZ</b> 1:18</p> <p><b>Room</b> 1:13</p> <p><b>Ruthanne</b> 1:14,16</p> <p><b>S</b></p> <p><b>saying</b> 5:16</p> <p><b>set</b> 5:2</p> <p><b>settle</b> 5:6</p> <p><b>SHORT</b> 1:19</p> <p><b>Show</b> 1:5 5:5 7:15</p> <p><b>SILVERSTEIN</b> 1:18</p> <p><b>Sorry</b> 3:19</p> <p><b>speak</b> 4:21</p> <p><b>spell</b> 3:7</p> <p><b>spoken</b> 4:18</p> <p><b>staff</b> 6:15</p> <p><b>Status</b> 1:6 7:16</p> <p><b>Stern</b> 1:21 2:7,7 4:17,21 5:16 7:9 7:12</p> <p><b>Street</b> 1:6,14 2:5</p> <p><b>Substantial</b> 1:9</p> <p><b>Suite</b> 1:14</p> <p><b>T</b></p> <p><b>t/a</b> 1:6</p> <p><b>talk</b> 5:17</p> <p><b>Thank</b> 4:5 6:1 7:6 7:7,12,13</p> <p><b>time</b> 4:17</p>	<p><b>today</b> 4:22 7:6</p> <p><b>trial</b> 5:2,13</p> <p><b>U</b></p> <p><b>U</b> 1:6 2:5</p> <p><b>understand</b> 4:10</p> <p><b>update</b> 6:8</p> <p><b>V</b></p> <p><b>W</b></p> <p><b>Wait</b> 2:17</p> <p><b>Washington</b> 1:14</p> <p><b>work</b> 5:15 7:10</p> <p><b>worked</b> 4:22</p> <p><b>X</b></p> <p><b>Y</b></p> <p><b>Y-O-N-A-S</b> 3:8</p> <p><b>Yonas</b> 2:16 3:1,5</p> <p><b>Z</b></p> <p><b>0</b></p> <p><b>1</b></p> <p><b>10:00</b> 5:7,22</p> <p><b>10:09</b> 2:2</p> <p><b>10:13</b> 7:17</p> <p><b>14-CMP-00070</b> 1:8 2:4</p> <p><b>14th</b> 1:13</p> <p><b>15</b> 5:7</p> <p><b>15th</b> 5:21</p> <p><b>1771</b> 1:6 2:5</p> <p><b>2</b></p> <p><b>2000</b> 1:13</p> <p><b>20009</b> 1:14</p> <p><b>2014</b> 1:11 5:7</p> <p><b>3</b></p> <p><b>4</b></p> <p><b>400S</b> 1:14</p> <p><b>5</b></p> <p><b>6</b></p> <p><b>7</b></p>
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